

50th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and Ireland

We, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ireland, welcome the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Ireland. Our two countries are united by shared values of democracy, human rights and the rule of law and, over the past fifty years, these fundamental values have formed the bedrock of an increasingly close relationship. The manifold contacts and links between Japan and Ireland extend further back in our shared history, but in the period since the opening of diplomatic relations on March 5, 1957 these links have grown and developed as Japanese and Irish people have deepened their understanding of each other through common endeavour and mutual exchange.

In 2007, the two countries pledge to renew this friendship through the promotion of contacts and exchange at all levels and in all areas between our two island nations. In particular, the two Governments undertake to work together in support of international peace and security through our shared membership of the United Nations and other international organisations. On the bilateral plane, Japan and Ireland agree to further deepen the political, economic and cultural relationship.


Recognizing that a deeper relationship will come about through greater exchange between our two peoples, the two Governments encourage Japanese and Irish men and women to contribute to the commemorative programme of events taking place in Japan and Ireland throughout 2007.

A list of commemorative events will be announced and reviewed regularly on our respective Embassy homepages.

December 14, 2006



Taro Aso
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan



Dermot Ahern TD
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ireland